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EXAMINER

PEREZ GUTIERREZ, RAFAEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2686

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/643,647

Applicant(s)

Dimeo et al.

Examiner

Rafael Perez-Gutierrez

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 August 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5,7-9,12,14,15,18-21 and 25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5,7-9,12,14,15,18-21 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 August 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

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### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This Action is in response to Applicant's amendment filed on August 22, 2005. **Claims 1, 2, 5, 7-9, 12, 14, 15, 18-21, and 25** are now pending in the present application. **This Action is made FINAL.**

#### ***Drawings***

2. The replacement drawing sheets received on August 22, 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.

#### ***Claim Objections***

3. **Claims 5, 12, 18, 21, and 25** are objected to because of the following informalities:
- a) On **line 2** of **claims 5 and 12**, insert --,-- after "switching";
  - b) On **line 2** of **claim 5**, insert --,-- after "amplitude";
  - c) On **line 3** of **claim 12**, insert --,-- after "receiver";
  - d) On **line 2** of **claim 18**, replace "receives" with --for receiving-- after "path";
  - e) On **line 2** of **claim 18**, insert --and-- after "path";
  - f) On **line 3** of **claim 18**, replace "receives" with --for receiving-- after "circuitry";
  - g) On **line 3** of **claim 18** and on **line 13** of **claim 25**, replace "produces" with --for producing-- after "and";

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- h) On **line 4 of claim 18**, replace “and” with --wherein-- after “and,”;
- i) On **line 12 of claim 21**, delete “and” after “path,”; and
- j) On **line 16 of claim 21**, replace “path and” with --path; and--.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office Action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the Examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the Examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

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1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

5. **Claims 1, 2, 5, 7-9, 12, 14, 15, 18-21, and 25** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Vogt et al. (U.S. Patent # 5,339,455)** in view of **Sugimoto (JP 2000-078039)**.

Consider **claim 1**, Vogt et al. clearly show and disclose a method of using at least one filter 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub> (figure) to receive signals from an antenna 1 by changing filtering characteristics (i.e., adjusting the bandwidth) (abstract and figure), said method comprising:

changing, by means of comparison and control means 13 (processing circuitry) (figure), filtering characteristics (i.e., adjusting the bandwidth) of a variable filter 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub> on a main signal path (i.e., the path of selector S<sub>1</sub>, filters 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub>, and selector S<sub>2</sub>) as a function of at least one amplitude (level, signal strength) on another signal path (i.e., the path of first level evaluation or threshold circuit 11 and comparison and control means 13) coupled to the main signal path (i.e., the path of selector S<sub>1</sub>, filters 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub>, and selector S<sub>2</sub>) and at least one power (signal strength) level of the main signal path (i.e., as measured by evaluation or threshold circuit 12) whereby the main signal path (i.e., the path of selector S<sub>1</sub>, filters 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub>, and selector S<sub>2</sub>) and the other signal path (i.e., the path of first level evaluation or threshold circuit 11 and comparison and control means 13) have a frequency band of operation and where said amplitude (level, signal strength) is in an adjacent band relative to the frequency band of operation (i.e.,

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amplitude (level, signal strength) measured is from an adjacent channel (signals not under the control of the receiver)) (abstract, figure, column 1 lines 19-24 and 53-65, column 2 lines 10-17, column 2 line 25 - column 3 line 47, and claim 1).

However, Vogt et al. do not specifically disclose that said amplitude includes an upper edge amplitude and a lower edge amplitude.

In the same field of endeavor, Sugimoto clearly shows and discloses a method of using at least one filter 6, 7 (figure 1) to receive signals from an antenna (not shown but inherently connected to input terminal 1) (figure 1) by changing filtering characteristics (i.e., by switching between filters 6, 7), said method comprising, among other steps, the step of changing filtering characteristics on a main signal path (i.e., path that includes filters 6, 7, switch 8, and intermediate frequency (IF) amplifier 9) as a function of at least one amplitude on another signal path (i.e., path that includes distributor 10, filters 11, 12, detectors 13, 14, comparators 15, 16, and OR element 18) coupled to the main signal path (i.e., through distributor 5) where said amplitude includes an upper edge amplitude (as detected by detector 13) and a lower edge amplitude (as detected by detector 14) relative to the frequency band of operation (abstract, figure 1, and paragraphs 0011-0029).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include an upper edge and a lower edge amplitude when changing the filtering characteristics as taught by Sugimoto in the method taught by Vogt et al. for the purpose of enhancing the filtering process.

Consider **claim 2**, Vogt et al., as modified by Sugimoto, clearly show and disclose the

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claimed invention **as applied to claim 1 above**, and, in addition, Vogt et al. further show and disclose that the filtering characteristics (i.e., bandwidth) on said main signal path (i.e., the path of selector  $S_1$ , filters  $14_1$ - $14_N$ , and selector  $S_2$ ) can be changed by using a power (signal strength) level in said frequency band of operation on said main signal path (i.e., the path of selector  $S_1$ , filters  $14_1$ - $14_N$ , and selector  $S_2$ ) (abstract, figure, and column 2 lines 49-67).

Consider **claim 5**, Vogt et al., as modified by Sugimoto, clearly show and disclose the claimed invention **as applied to claim 1 above**, and, in addition, Vogt et al. also disclose that the filtering characteristics (i.e., bandwidth) are changed by switching as a function of said at least one amplitude (level, signal strength) between a plurality of filters  $14_1$ - $14_N$  having different filtering characteristics (i.e., passband) (figure, column 1 lines 58-65, column 2 lines 49-68, and column 3 lines 19-40).

Consider **claim 7**, Vogt et al., as modified by Sugimoto, clearly show and disclose the claimed invention **as applied to claim 1 above**, and, in addition, Vogt et al. further disclose that the filtering characteristics (i.e., bandwidth) are changed by narrowing a bandwidth for a filter  $14_1$ - $14_N$  on said main signal path (i.e., the path of selector  $S_1$ , filters  $14_1$ - $14_N$ , and selector  $S_2$ ) to attenuate signals on at least one of the upper edge or lower edge (adjacent band) of said frequency band of operation (abstract, column 1 lines 58-65, column 2 lines 25-68, and column 3 lines 19-40).

Consider **claim 8**, Vogt et al. clearly show and disclose a method of receiving signals, said method comprising:

changing, by means of comparison and control means 13 (processing circuitry) (figure),

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filtering characteristics (i.e., adjusting the bandwidth) of a variable filter 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub> on a main signal path (i.e., the path of selector S<sub>1</sub>, filters 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub>, and selector S<sub>2</sub>) of a receiver, having a frequency band of operation, as a function of at least a power (signal strength) level of a signal on the main signal path and at least one amplitude (level, signal strength) of a signal on an adjacent channel (band edge; signals not under the control of the receiver) relative to the frequency band of operation of the receiver (abstract, figure, column 1 lines 19-24 and 53-65, column 2 lines 10-17, column 2 line 25 - column 3 line 47, and claim 1).

However, Vogt et al. do not specifically disclose that said amplitude includes an upper edge amplitude and a lower edge amplitude.

In the same field of endeavor, Sugimoto clearly shows and discloses a method of receiving signals, said method comprising:

changing filtering characteristics (i.e., by switching between filters 6, 7) on a main signal path (i.e., path that includes filters 6, 7, switch 8, and intermediate frequency (IF) amplifier 9) depending on at least one amplitude for signals not under the control of said receiver (e.g., adjacent channel signals) where the at least one amplitude includes an upper edge amplitude (as detected by detector 13) and a lower edge amplitude (as detected by detector 14) relative to a frequency band of operation (abstract, figure 1, and paragraphs 0011-0029).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include an upper edge and a lower edge amplitude when changing the filtering characteristics as taught by Sugimoto in the method taught by Vogt et al. for the purpose of enhancing the filtering process.



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Consider **claim 9**, Vogt et al., as modified by Sugimoto, clearly show and disclose the claimed invention **as applied to claim 8 above**, and, in addition, Vogt et al. further show and disclose that the filtering characteristics (i.e., bandwidth) on said main signal path (i.e., the path of selector S<sub>1</sub>, filters 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub>, and selector S<sub>2</sub>) can be changed by using an amplitude (level, signal strength) in said frequency band of operation on said main signal path (i.e., the path of selector S<sub>1</sub>, filters 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub>, and selector S<sub>2</sub>) (abstract, figure, and column 2 lines 49-67).

Consider **claim 12**, Vogt et al., as modified by Sugimoto, clearly show and disclose the claimed invention **as applied to claim 8 above**, and, in addition, Vogt et al. also disclose that the filtering characteristics (i.e., bandwidth) are changed by switching as a function of said at least one amplitude (level, signal strength) between a plurality of filters 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub> having different filtering characteristics (i.e., passband) (figure, column 1 lines 58-65, column 2 lines 49-68, and column 3 lines 19-40).

Consider **claim 14**, Vogt et al., as modified by Sugimoto, clearly show and disclose the claimed invention **as applied to claim 8 above**, and, in addition, Vogt et al. further disclose that the filtering characteristics (i.e., bandwidth) are changed by narrowing a bandwidth for a filter 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub> on said main signal path (i.e., the path of selector S<sub>1</sub>, filters 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub>, and selector S<sub>2</sub>) to attenuate signals on at least one band edge (adjacent band) of said frequency band of operation (abstract, column 1 lines 58-65, column 2 lines 25-68, and column 3 lines 19-40).

Consider **claim 15**, Vogt et al. clearly show and disclose a band edge amplitude reduction system for a radio receiver comprising:

a variable filter 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub> on a main signal path (i.e., the path of selector S<sub>1</sub>, filters 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub>,

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and selector  $S_2$ ) having a frequency band of operation (abstract, figure, and column 2 line 25 - column 3 line 47); and

comparison and control means 13 (processing circuitry) (figure) coupled to said variable filter and to at least one power level indicator (i.e., evaluation or threshold circuit 12) so as to change filtering characteristics (i.e., adjusting the bandwidth) of said variable filter  $14_1$ - $14_N$  as a function of at least one amplitude (level, signal strength) on another signal path (i.e., the path of first level evaluation or threshold circuit 11 and comparison and control means 13), where said amplitude (level, signal strength) is in an adjacent band relative to the frequency band of operation (i.e., amplitude (level, signal strength) measured is from an adjacent channel (signals not under the control of the receiver)) (abstract, figure, column 1 lines 19-24 and 53-65, column 2 lines 10-17, column 2 line 25 - column 3 line 47, and claim 1).

However, Vogt et al. do not specifically disclose that said amplitude includes an upper edge amplitude and a lower edge amplitude.

In the same field of endeavor, Sugimoto clearly shows and discloses a band edge amplitude reduction system for a receiver (abstract) comprising, among other components, an adjacent channel signal detector 20 (processing circuitry) for changing filtering characteristics of a variable filter (i.e., by switching between filters 6, 7) as a function of at least one amplitude for a frequency band adjacent to the frequency band of operation, where the at least one amplitude includes an upper edge amplitude (as detected by detector 13) and a lower edge amplitude (as detected by detector 14) relative to the frequency band of operation (abstract, figure 1, and paragraphs 0011-0029).

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include an upper edge and a lower edge amplitude when changing the filtering characteristics as taught by Sugimoto in the system taught by Vogt et al. for the purpose of enhancing the filtering process.

Consider **claim 18**, Vogt et al., as modified by Sugimoto, clearly show and disclose the claimed invention **as applied to claim 15 above**, and, in addition, Vogt et al. also show and disclose:

a detection path (path of selector  $S_2$ , second level evaluation or threshold circuit 12, and comparison and control means 13) for receiving a replica of said signals from said main signal path (i.e., the path of selector  $S_1$ , filters  $14_1$ - $14_N$ , and selector  $S_2$ ) (column 2 line 49 - column 3 line 5 and column 3 lines 19-35); and

a second level evaluation or threshold circuit 12 (detection circuitry) for receiving said signals from said detection path (path of selector  $S_2$ , second level evaluation or threshold circuit 12, and comparison and control means 13) and producing an amplitude (level, signal strength) for said signals in said frequency band of operation on said detection path (path of selector  $S_2$ , second level evaluation or threshold circuit 12, and comparison and control means 13) (column 2 line 49 - column 3 line 35); wherein

said means of comparison and control means 13 (processing circuitry) (figure) changes said filtering characteristics (i.e., adjusting the bandwidth) of said filter  $14_1$ - $14_N$  on said main signal path (i.e., the path of selector  $S_1$ , filters  $14_1$ - $14_N$ , and selector  $S_2$ ) based on a comparison between said at least one amplitude (level, signal strength) for said adjacent band (adjacent

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channel) and said amplitude (level, signal strength) for said frequency band of operation (figure and column 3 lines 1-40).

Consider **claim 19**, Vogt et al., as modified by Sugimoto, clearly show and disclose the claimed invention **as applied to claim 15 above**, and, in addition, Vogt et al. also disclose that the filtering characteristics (i.e., bandwidth) are changed by switching as a function of said at least one amplitude (level, signal strength) between a plurality of filters 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub> having different filtering characteristics (i.e., passband) (figure, column 1 lines 58-65, column 2 lines 49-68, and column 3 lines 19-40).

Consider **claim 20**, Vogt et al., as modified by Sugimoto, clearly show and disclose the claimed invention **as applied to claim 15 above**, and, in addition, Vogt et al. further disclose that the filtering characteristics (i.e., bandwidth) are changed by narrowing a bandwidth for a filter 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub> on said main signal path (i.e., the path of selector S<sub>1</sub>, filters 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub>, and selector S<sub>2</sub>) to attenuate signals on at least one band edge (adjacent band) of said frequency band of operation (abstract, column 1 lines 58-65, column 2 lines 25-68, and column 3 lines 19-40).

Consider **claims 21 and 25**, Vogt et al. clearly show and disclose a band edge amplitude reduction system and a method of receiving signals comprising:

changing, by means of comparison and control means 13 (processing circuitry) (figure), filtering characteristics (i.e., adjusting the bandwidth) of a variable filter 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub> on a main signal path (i.e., the path of selector S<sub>1</sub>, filters 14<sub>1</sub>-14<sub>N</sub>, and selector S<sub>2</sub>) as a function of at least one amplitude (level, signal strength) on another signal path (i.e., the path of first level evaluation or threshold circuit 11 and comparison and control means 13) and a power (signal

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strength) level on the main signal path, where said amplitude (level, signal strength) is in an adjacent band relative to the frequency band of operation (i.e., amplitude (level, signal strength) measured is from an adjacent channel (band edge; signals not under the control of the receiver)) (abstract, figure, column 1 lines 19-24 and 53-65, column 2 lines 10-17, column 2 line 25 - column 3 line 47, and claim 1);

receiving analog signal on said main signal path (i.e., the path of selector  $S_1$ , filters  $14_1$ - $14_N$ , and selector  $S_2$ ) (column 2 lines 25-40);

producing a replica of said analog signals on the other signal path (i.e., the path of first level evaluation or threshold circuit 11 and comparison and control means 13), where the other signal path is a band edge detection path (i.e., amplitude (level, signal strength) measured is from an adjacent channel (band edge; signals not under the control of the receiver)) (abstract, figure, column 1 lines 19-24 and 53-65, column 2 lines 10-17, and column 2 line 25 - column 3 line 47);

providing a replica of said analog signals on a detection path (path of selector  $S_2$ , second level evaluation or threshold circuit 12, and comparison and control means 13) (figure, column 2 line 49 - column 3 line 5, and column 3 lines 19-35);

detecting, by means of second level evaluation or threshold circuit 12 (detection circuitry), a power level (signal strength) of the signal on the main signal path (column 2 line 49 - column 3 line 35); and

changing, by means of comparison and control means 13 (processing circuitry) (figure), said filtering characteristics (i.e., adjusting the bandwidth) on said main signal path (i.e., the path of selector  $S_1$ , filters  $14_1$ - $14_N$ , and selector  $S_2$ ) based on a comparison between said at least one

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amplitude (level, signal strength) for said adjacent band (adjacent channel) (i.e., signals not under the control of the receiver) and said amplitude (level, signal strength) for said frequency band of operation (figure and column 3 lines 1-40).

However, Vogt et al. do not specifically disclose the steps of dividing said analog signals on said band edge detection path onto an upper edge detection path and a lower edge detection path and producing an upper edge amplitude for said analog signals at an upper edge relative to said frequency band of operation on said upper edge detection path and a lower edge amplitude for said analog signals at a lower edge relative to said frequency band of operation on said lower edge detection path.

In the same field of endeavor, Sugimoto clearly shows and discloses a method of receiving analog signals, said method comprising:

changing filtering characteristics (i.e., by switching between filters 6, 7) on a main signal path (i.e., path that includes filters 6, 7, switch 8, and intermediate frequency (IF) amplifier 9) as a function of at least one band edge of a frequency band of operation of a receiver depending on at least one amplitude for signals not under the control of said receiver (e.g., adjacent channel signals) (abstract, figure 1, and paragraph 0011);

producing, via distributor 5, a replica of said analog signals on another signal path where the other signal path is a band edge detection path (abstract, figure 1, and paragraphs 0011-0013);

dividing, via distributor 20, said analog signals on said band edge detection path onto an upper edge detection path (i.e., path including upper filter 11, first detector 13, and first

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comparator 15) and a lower edge detection path (i.e., path including lower filter 12, second detector 14, and second comparator 16) (figure 1 and paragraphs 0015-0020); and

producing an upper edge amplitude, via detector 13, for said analog signals at an upper edge relative to said frequency band of operation on said upper edge detection path and a lower edge amplitude, via detector 14, for said analog signals at a lower edge relative to said frequency band of operation on said lower edge detection path (abstract, figure 1, and paragraphs 0015-0028).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to divide the signals into an upper edge and a lower edge detection path and produce an upper edge and a lower edge amplitude when changing the filtering characteristics as taught by Sugimoto in the method taught by Vogt et al. for the purpose of enhancing the filtering process.

### ***Response to Arguments***

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to **claims 1, 2, 5, 7-9, 12, 14, 15, 18-21, and 25** have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. See the above rejection of claims 1, 8, and 15 for the relevant citations found in Vogt et al. disclosing the newly added limitations.

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***Conclusion***

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office Action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

8. Any response to this Office Action should be **faxed to (571) 273-8300 or mailed to:**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Hand-delivered responses** should be brought to

Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314



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9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Rafael Perez-Gutierrez whose telephone number is (571) 272-7915. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 6:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Marsha D. Banks-Harold can be reached on (571) 272-7905. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or 703-305-3028.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/customer service whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.



Rafael Perez-Gutierrez  
R.P.G./rpg **RAFAEL PEREZ-GUTIERREZ**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

November 28, 2005